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The Tangi Times

The Newspaper of Tangipahoa, St. Helena, and Eastern Livingston Parishes

MONDAY MOJO EDITION

44th Year, No. 89 | Monday, September 8, 2025 | ONE DOLLAR

Ghosts in the Bayou

By STEFANIE BROOKE • Tangi Times Community Journalist

If you've spent any time near a bayou, lake, or river in south Louisiana, you've probably seen it: a little snarl of fishing line tangled in the weeds, wrapped around a tree branch, or drifting along the shore like a stubborn ghost. It doesn't look like much — just a thin, clear thread left behind after somebody's big one got away.

But that ghost of a fishing trip doesn't just vanish. It lingers. And for wildlife, it can be downright deadly.

Discarded fishing line is made of monofilament – a fancy word for plastic that doesn't break down easily. We're talking centuries.

To a pelican, a turtle, or an otter, that leftover strand can mean big trouble.

Birds get it wrapped around their wings and can't fly. Turtles mistake it for food and choke. Fish, ironically enough, get tangled and can't swim free.

Even crabs crawling along the bottom can find themselves hog-tied by something that was never meant to be part of the seafood chain. It's like nature's cruel joke: a tool made to catch fish keeps catching long after we've left the dock.

The background photo above was taken by Paul Perez in the swamp around the Tchefuncte River. See the raw photo on Page 2.

The problem is – fishing line is sneaky. It's nearly invisible in the water, so animals don't know what they're up against until it's too late.

Even boat propellers and trolling motors can get snarled, making it not just an environmental hazard but a human one, too. That little scrap someone tossed overboard or dropped on the dock ends up doing damage far beyond the weekend trip it came from.

The good news? This is one of those rare environmental problems with a surprisingly simple fix.

Many boat launches, marinas, and state parks in Louisiana have special bins just for fishing line recycling. That line gets collected, shipped off, and actually melted down into new products — things like tackle boxes, fish habitats, or even more line. Instead of haunting the bayou, it gets a second life.

All it takes is a moment to stuff those scraps in your pocket or tackle bag and drop them in the right bin later.

See GHOSTS on Page 3

The Art of Tricking Yourself

By STEFANIE BROOKE
Tangi Times
Community Journalist

Some days, getting yourself to focus feels a bit like trying to herd a group of caffeinated squirrels. You sit down to tackle that pile of laundry, paperwork, or the project your boss wants by Friday, and suddenly you're scrolling through old vacation photos or alphabetizing your spice rack.

The good news? There are a few simple tricks to help you keep your eyes, brain, and willpower aimed in the right direction.

First, make a game out of it. Set a timer for fifteen minutes and challenge yourself to get as much done as possible before the buzzer.

Somehow the same part of your brain that loves beating high scores in phone games kicks in when you realize you're "playing against the clock." You might be shocked at how much you can do in short, focused bursts.

Second, bribe yourself. Yes, we're all basically well-dressed toddlers at heart.

Tell yourself that once you finish a task, you get something you enjoy — a snack, a coffee, five guilt-free minutes watching goat videos. Your inner child will rise to the occasion.

Third, eliminate the sneaky distractions before they have a chance to pounce. Put your phone in another room, close unnecessary tabs, and maybe even put up a little "Do Not Disturb" sign if you live with people who think "What are you doing?" is an acceptable conversation starter while you're mid-task.

Last, make it pleasant. If the task is boring, at least give it a fun soundtrack or a cozy setting.

Folding laundry is easier with a favorite playlist. Writing that report feels less soul-sucking when you have a warm drink and a comfy chair.

Focus isn't about superhuman willpower — it's about creating little conditions that make your brain want to cooperate. Think of it less like herding squirrels (caffeinated or not caffeinated), and more like leaving out peanuts so they actually come to you.

Today is National Boss/Employee Exchange Day!

Let the games begin!

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MEME MOJO

Me: Doc, you said you needed to see me right away. What is it?

Doc: Thanks for coming in. I have bad news and worse news. The bad news is that you have 24 hours to live.

Me: And the worse news???

Doc: I meant to tell you yesterday.

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I misspelled "unstoppable," and my phone autocorrected it to "I'm unstable." Honestly, that's kind of fair.

Just Saying

The Tangi Times

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Tonya Aiken

PALINDROME *du jour*

Borrow or rob?

A palindrome is a word, phrase, or sentence that reads the same backward as it does forward. If you have a favorite palindrome, send it to publisher@tangitimes.com.

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Back in My Day

By Burl "Two-Toes" Jenkins

Back in my day, a cool front in late August was about as rare as your grandma giving up her secret gumbo recipe. Folks today get all excited when the weatherman says, "Temperatures dropping into the 80s!" Eighties? That ain't a cool front – that's just summer putting on deodorant.

I remember when a cool front actually meant something. The wind would blow through like the good Lord left the icebox door open, and everybody in town suddenly acted like they lived in Colorado. Grown men would pull out their long-sleeve flannels just to sit on the porch and sip Community Coffee, pretending it was brisk enough to see their breath. The ladies would start talking about gumbo season, even though the thermometer still read "boil crawfish."

The first whiff of cooler air always hit right after the first week of school. You could smell it on the playground — half chalk dust, half promise of football under Friday Night Lights.

Us kids would go tearing around the monkey bars like we'd been liberated from a swampy prison. A breeze that didn't feel like a wet towel? That was freedom!

Of course, those fronts never lasted long. Two days later you'd be sweating again, and your mama would be hollering about the power bill because the A/C had to stay on.

But for those brief, blessed hours, folks believed in miracles.

Neighbors actually cut their grass instead of glaring at it from the window. Dads suddenly decided it was grilling weather. Somebody's maw-maw would bake a pecan pie, just because the oven didn't threaten to melt her slippers.

Nowadays, people track cool fronts on their phones, refreshing radar apps like it's the NFL draft. Back then, we didn't need Doppler or fancy maps — we could tell a cool front was coming by the way the oak leaves rustled or the fact that Uncle Roy's bad knee started aching. Mother Nature was more reliable than Channel 9 – and a lot more entertaining.

So if you feel that hint of cool creeping in one late August morning, don't waste it on chores. Sit on the porch. Open the windows. Pretend you live somewhere with actual seasons.

And if you catch your neighbor dragging out his hunting jacket at 84 degrees, don't laugh too hard — he's just honoring a tradition as old as south Louisiana itself: grabbing hold of fall before summer notices it slipped out the door.

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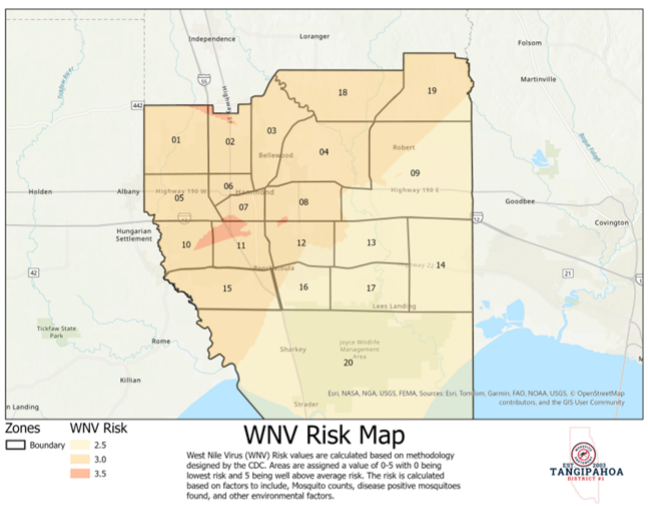
Natural Beauty

This photograph, featured on the front page, was taken by Paul V. Perez in the swamps of the Tchefuncte River in July 2025. The image is a compelling depiction of the serenity and natural beauty of our home in southern Louisiana.

Of 1,575 samples tested so far this year, 186 have returned positive for West Nile Virus.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3.0
3.5
WNV Risk Map
West Nile Virus (WNV) Risk values are calculated based on methodology designed by the CDC. Areas are assigned a value of 0-5 with 0 being lowest risk and 5 being well above average risk. The risk is calculated based on factors to include, Mosquito counts, disease positive mosquitoes found, and other environmental factors.
TANGIPAHOA

The Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District is asking all residents to perform basic defense methods to help protect against the presence of disease. Methods include wearing long sleeves, limiting time outdoors at dusk and dawn, emptying standing water, and using repellant with DEET or Picaridin (15% lasts 2-4 hrs, 20-50% for 5-8 hrs.).
There have been two reported human cases in our district this year. Visit www.tangimosquito.org for more information and advice to reduce mosquito activity.

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GHOSTS

From Page 1

And if you don't see a recycling bin nearby? Don't panic. You can cut the line into small pieces and toss it in the regular trash.

That may not sound glamorous, but it keeps it out of the waterways where wildlife roam. Better in a landfill than around the leg of an unsuspecting heron.

Here in Louisiana, where fishing is practically a love language, we owe it to the waters and the critters that make them special. Louisiana Sportsmen are conservationists by nature, and this little effort can have a big impact on overall wildlife health on our beloved land and water.

The next time you're out chasing redfish or crappie, remember: the fish you don't catch still deserve a fighting chance. Pick up that line, recycle when you can, and keep our bayous clear for the generations of anglers (and pelicans) yet to come.

Louisiana Walks for Parkinson's on October 11

From the Parkinson's Foundation

The Parkinson's community will come together on Saturday, October 11, 2025, at Lafreniere Park (3000 Downs Blvd., Metairie, LA 70003) for Louisiana Walks for Parkinson's, benefiting the Parkinson's Foundation and its mission to make life better for people living with Parkinson's disease through improved care and advancing research toward a cure. Registration opens at 9:00 a.m., and the walk (which is optional) begins at 11:00am.

This family friendly community event features live music, auction, parade of prizes, kids' activities, and supports the Parkinson's Foundation.

This year's event will feature a silent auction, parade of prizes, live music, food and beverages (including beer and wine), and a kids' corner, plus on-site resources for people with Parkinson's and their care partners. Participants can also purchase Liquor Wagon and Parade of Prizes raffle tickets, with all proceeds fueling local programs and national research.

"Louisiana Walks for Parkinson's is about community, hope, and action," said Michelle Lane, event founder and Parkinson's Foundation Ambassador. "Every dollar raised helps people live better with Parkinson's today, while pushing research closer to tomorrow's breakthroughs."

TANGI GUMBO

A little bit of everything you need to know

Southeastern Louisiana University's Office of Military and Veteran Success and the University Police Department are hosting the inaugural 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at the University Center. Scheduled Sept. 11 at 8:30 am at the University Center, the event is being held in honor of the 343 New York City firefighters who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001.

Southeastern students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to join in climbing 110 stories. Each participant will be required to sign a hold harmless agreement at the event.

T-shirts will be available to purchase for $15 via debit card, credit card, or Venmo to the first 150 participants, and prizes will be given to the largest team, the fastest team, and the fastest individual. Those unable to physically complete the stair climb are invited to attend and show support or they can sign up as volunteers.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) approved a Declaration of Emergency (DE) that will allow disabled veterans to use any legal weapon during primitive firearms season in each of Louisiana's 10 Deer Areas during the 2025-26 hunting season. The action came during the commission's September meeting Thursday (Sept. 4) in Baton Rouge.

Primitive firearms season begins in deer areas 3, 7, 8 and 10 on Oct. 11, in Deer Area 2 on Oct. 18 and the remaining deer areas on Nov. 8.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) approved a notice of intent that proposes regulations and procedures for registering and titling abandoned and salvaged vessels. The action came during the commission's September meeting, Thursday (Sept. 4), in Baton Rouge.

The NOI develops rules and regulations associated with the salvage and the titling and registering of abandoned vessels. To see the complete NOI, go to https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/resources/category/commission-action-items.

Public comments will be accepted on the NOI through Dec. 2. Comments may be sent to LDWF Enforcement Division Capt. Jason Russo at P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70898-9000 or by email to jrusso@wlf.la.gov.

Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced the preliminary results of an ongoing investigation into noncitizens on Louisiana's voter rolls.

"As a result of this investigation, we have found 390 noncitizens registered to vote in Louisiana," Secretary Landry said. "Of those, 79 have voted in at least one election."

These preliminary results are due to Louisiana being the first state in the nation to use the newly revamped SAVE database from the Department of Homeland Security. Louisiana was first given access to the cost-free database in May.

During her remarks, Secretary Landry also stated, "All of those illegally registered individuals have been removed or are in the process of being removed from our voter rolls. It is a crime to register to vote and to vote as a noncitizen, and it undermines the fundamental rights of American citizens. My office will be working with the appropriate authorities for prosecution, and I will be encouraging those authorities to file charges in every single case that the law allows."

"I want to be clear: noncitizens illegally registering or voting is not a systemic problem in Louisiana. In fact, our voter list maintenance procedures are a key reason why Louisiana is ranked number three in the nation for election integrity."

SAFE (Southeast Advocates for Family Empowerment) and the Tangipahoa Parish Library are partnering to host an interactive workshop on teen dating at the Amite Branch on Sept. 15, 2025, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm The session will help teens and families navigate challenges such as dating, relationships, and peer pressure, while providing tools, resources, and open discussion to encourage healthy decision-making and communication. Organizers say the event is ideal for both teens and parents, with registration available online at www.tangilibrary.com.

Louisiana hunters and competitive shooters can save on firearms, ammunition, and select hunting gear this weekend during the Second Amendment Weekend Sales Tax Holiday, which runs Friday through Sunday. Eligible items include archery equipment, hunting apparel, certain knives, binoculars, hearing protection, range finders, decoys, and hunting stands or blinds, but the exemption does not cover commercial sales, animal feed, hunting dogs, off-road vehicles, or vessels such as airboats. The holiday, suspended in 2018 due to budget issues, returned last year, though lawmakers have not expanded the list of exempt items.

Do you love watching birds but wish you knew their names? Maybe this class is for you! This 4-week class starts Tuesday, Sept 24, 2025, 8:30am to 11:30am at Coquille Park in Covington. This class is designed for the beginning bird watcher. It will consist of 4 weekly sessions. In the first session, you will be introduced to binoculars and field guides and basic information about birdwatching. The following three weeks, we will go on bird walks around the property and identify as many birds as possible. Bird walks may last up to 2 hours (at a very leisurely pace) so mobility is required. After the bird walks, we will review what we've seen and discuss tips and tricks for identifying birds by sight and sound. During the last class, I will offer resources and information on where and how to use your new birding skills. Binoculars and field guides will be provided during the class sessions.

Class is taught by Jane Patterson, President and Education Chair for the Baton Rouge Audubon Society who has been teaching birding classes since 2007. For more details and registration information, visit braudubon.org and look under events or email education@braudubon.org.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) enforcement agents recovered the body of Phillippe Lannelongue, 58, on September 3. His body was found near Manchac and turned over to the Tangipahoa Parish Coroner's Office who then transferred him to the St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office to determine an official cause of death.

LDWF enforcement agents responded to a single vessel incident in Lake Pontchartrain that occurred around 3am on Aug 31. According to a female passenger on the vessel at the time of the incident, she and Lannelongue were on a sailboat when they struck a bridge in Lake Pontchartrain causing Lannelongue to be ejected into the water. The female passenger immediately called 911 for help and the U.S. Coast Guard was able to bring her to safety.

Tangipahoa Chamber Hosts State of the Parish

Tangipahoa Chamber hosted a State of the Parish Luncheon at the Southeastern Union Grand Ballroom on Thursday, September 4. The luncheon was presented by North Oaks Health System and featured Parish President Robby Miller. Miller shared key accomplishments that "make our parish the best parish in the state." With more than 300 business leaders in attendance, Miller focused primarily on the work driven by the Tangipahoa Parish Government team, who lead parish operations.

Pictured, left-to-right, are Tangipahoa Chamber President & CEO Melissa Bordelon, Tangipahoa Parish President Robby Miller, North Oaks Health System President & CEO Michele Sutton, and incoming Tangipahoa Chamber Chairman Matt Emmons. Photo courtesy of Tangipahoa Chamber

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Southeastern Theatre Returns Home with Exciting 2025–2026 season

From Southeastern

Southeastern Louisiana University Theatre is marking two major milestones this year — graduating its first class of BA in Theatre students and returning to a newly renovated D Vickers Hall after four years.

The 2025–2026 Mainstage Season launches this fall in the department's brand-new studio performance space with four dynamic productions:

● Katrina's Path by Rob Florence (Oct. 22–25) — Moving, real-life monologues from New Orleanians who lived through Hurricane Katrina and the levee failures. Playwright in attendance for post-show talkback.

● Winds of Change: An Evening of Modern Drama (Nov. 19–22) — Curated by Chad Winters, featuring groundbreaking works from Ibsen to Tennessee Williams.

● Little Shop of Horrors (Mar. 13–14, 20–21) — Darkly comic rock musical staged at the Columbia Theatre.

● The Appliance Department by Bella Poynton (Apr. 29–May 2) — Winner of the 2025 Inkslinger Playwriting Contest, exploring love, freedom, and empathy through the eyes of robotic companions.

All SLU students enjoy free admission with a valid student ID. Seating in the new studio space will be limited.

For more info & press interviews: Anne-Liese Juge Fox | afox@southeastern.edu | 504-258-0335 Box Office: 985-549-2115 | southeastern.edu/boxoffice Instagram: @southeastern_theatre

Ponchatoula Police Department Arrests Man for Arson

From PPD

Around 4:00am on September 3, 2025, the Ponchatoula Police Department contacted the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal for assistance in investigating an early morning house fire in the area of Eighth Street Drive in Ponchatoula, Louisiana. Investigators determined the fire was the result of arson.

No one was present inside the residence at the time, but a beloved family pet perished in the fire.

Around 2:00 PM, information was obtained by detectives that the suspect, Bryce Travis Martin, was traveling south on Rufus Bankston Road in Hammond. With assistance from Fire Marshal investigators and Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office deputies, Ponchatoula Police Department detectives placed 25-year-old Bryce Travis Martin in custody.

Martin later confessed to several crimes, including setting the fire that destroyed the home. Martin was transported to the Tangipahoa Parish Jail on the following charges:

1 count - Stalking

1 count - Violations of Protective Orders

1 count - Nonconsensual disclosure of a private image

Fire Marshal Investigators have now also booked Martin for Aggravated Arson and Aggravated Animal Cruelty.

This case remains under investigation. Anyone with further information is asked to contact Detective Collin Lee or Detective Jimmy McGovern at (985) 386-6548.

The Tangi Times

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Legal and Public Notices

Tangipahoa Parish Government

SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR PARISH ENGINEER

The Tangipahoa Parish Government is seeking a Civil Engineer to join our Team. The Parish Engineer oversees professional engineering and administrative tasks and works with consultants on the design, hydrology, investigation, and construction of roads, utilities, groundwater and wastewater treatment systems, and other public works projects. This includes ensuring proper oversight of project activities, preparing plans and specifications, and managing the overall execution of assigned projects to ensure they are completed on time, within budget, and to the required standards.

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- Must have a valid Driver's License and MVR.
- Must be able to travel to satellite office locations as needed.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Pre-employment drug testing is required, and employees will be subject to unannounced alcohol and drug testing as a condition of continued employment.
- Required pre-employment background check.

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Work Location: Tangipahoa Parish

Salary Range: DOE/Full-Time with Benefits

Application Deadline: Friday, September 12, 2025, 3:00 PM

Cost of notice: $31.50

Tangipahoa Parish Government

SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) MANAGER

The Tangipahoa Parish Government is searching for experienced candidates for the position of GIS Manager. To join our growing team, please review the list of responsibilities and qualifications. The Parish GIS Manager will maintain the enterprise Geographical Information Systems (GIS) databases, applications, and interfaces to various systems on personal, mid-level, and mainframe computer platforms.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor's degree in geographic information systems, geography, planning, civil engineering, computer science, or a related field.
- 5+ years of proven experience in geographic information systems, including one year of supervisory experience.
- ESRI Certification.
- Must have a valid Driver's License and MVR.
- Great attention to detail, positive attitude, and strong work ethic.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Pre-employment drug testing is required, and employees will be subject to unannounced alcohol and drug testing as a condition of continued employment.
- Required pre-employment background check.

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Gary Stanga, Clerk of Court
List of jurors to serve a term beginning September 16, 2025

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AYAP, JULIANA VILLAPANDO
BAHAM, JENA LYNN
BAHAM, LUCIOUS JOHN
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BERRY, CYNTHIA D
BERTONE, GWENDOLYN GERSCH
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CAMERON, LILLIE BEATRICE
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CARTER, RAQUAIL TENNA
CARTER II, ROBERT GERALD
CATON, AMANDA LYNN
COOKSEY, ERIN ZACHERY
COOMBS, MARY LEE
COSTANZA, DAVID JOSEPH
COSTANZA, KYLE JOSEPH
COSTON, JOSHUA HOSEA
COURTNEY, DAKAYLA MESHELL
COURTNEY, TOMYRIA DRENTRELL
CUTRER, JASON DEAN
DARDAR, JUSTIN STORM
DAVIS, JACKIE REID
DAVIS, KATHRYN ELIZABETH
DAWSON, KAYLA ANN
DENCAUSSE, MARVIN C
DOWNING, DUDLEY ROSS
DOWNING, VONDA KAY PENALBER
DREHER, GREGORY PAUL
DRUDE, STEPHANIE LYN LEFTWICH
DUHE, NICHOLAS PETER
DUNCAN, TAYLOR RAYN
DYSON, CYNTHIA MONTGOMERY
DYSON, MELISSA RENA
EMMONS, BRITTANI RENEE KRAFT
ENGERON, CHRIS
FERGUSON, CHEYA SEPTEMBER
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FONTENOT, NIOMA A
FOX, ANTHONY M
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FULLER, YVONNE LACEY
GABRIEL, KERRY
GAMBINO, AARON JOSEPH
GAY, LORRI MORGAN
GENCO, LORETTA PIAZZA
GENCO, MARY ESTHER
GIBSON, LAKESHIA RAYFIELD
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WOMACK, WILLIAM CLIFTON
WRIGHT, KERI AMANDA
WRONKOSKI, DEENA N
YOUNG, ERICKA LASHAWN
ZACHARY, STEPHANIE DAWN
ZWEIFEL, CHARLES J

Cost of Notice: $74.00

MELISSA M. STILLEY
SUPERINTENDENT

TOM TOLAR
BOARD PRESIDENT

NOTICE

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

The Tangipahoa Parish School System (TPSS) is now accepting applications for the following:

POSITION: College and Career Coach (11 Months)

SALARY: $53,339 - $76,680 (Based on verified years of relevant experience)

LOCATION: College and Career Center
Independence, LA

CRITERIA:

- Bachelor's degree in Education, Career Development, Counseling, or related field (Master's preferred).
- Experience in program management or coordination, particularly in career readiness, apprenticeships, or similar educational settings.
- See Job Description for key criteria associated with this advertisement

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in managing or overseeing apprenticeship programs at the secondary school level.
- Familiarity with career assessment tools, ACT prep resources, and national standards for career readiness.
- Ability to create and deliver professional development opportunities for site coordinators and other school staff.
- Problem-solving mindset with the ability to innovate and adapt programs to meet students' diverse needs.

A flexible schedule may occur. After-hours and weekends may be required periodically
***********************FEDERALLY FUNDED STATEMENT *************************
This position is federally funded and any future academic year renewal is based on the allotment of federal funds.

Applications for this position will only be accepted through the Frontline Recruit and Hire website: www.applitrack.com/Tangischools/onlineapp. Submit your application before the deadline of **SEPTEMBER 12, 2025,** even if a previous paper application is on file with TPSS Human Resources. Previous paper or email applications will not be considered.

IMPORTANT: Please be advised that all applicants who apply for this position should check their email account daily, **including their SPAM folder**, for communications regarding this advertisement.
*The Tangipahoa Parish School System is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.

DATE ADVERTISEMENT POSTED: SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

Publish: 9/5, 9/8, 9/10, and 9/12
Cost of notice: $31.50

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Consolidated Gravity Drainage District #1
of Tangipahoa Parish
48571 Highway 51 North
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Notice Posted:
September 4, 2025

A G E N D A

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

4:30 P.M.
Personnel Committee Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion of Personnel Matter
4. Adjourn

4:45 P.M.
Finance Committee Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion of August Expenditures
4. Adjourn

5:00 P.M.
R E G U L A R M E E T I N G

1. Call to Order
2. Please silence all cell phones
3. Roll Call
4. Prayer
5. Pledge of Allegiance (All Veterans and active military, please render the proper salute)
6. Visitors
7. Public Comment
8. Adoption of Minutes of Regular Meeting dated August 27, 2025
9. Acceptance of Finance Committee Report
10. Drainage Plans – Ochsner Bocage – Duplantis Design Group – District 2
11. Project Updates – Spangler Engineering
12. Approval of Change Order #8 – Vegetative Maintenance Spray Contract – ELOS Environmental
13. Administrator's Report
14. Personnel
15. Legal Matters
16. Commissioners' Privileges
17. Adjourn

For: Joey Mayeaux
President
By: Stanan Capdeboscq
Secretary-Treasurer
In Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need secial assistance,

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Stanan Capdeboscq at (985) 542-4292 or stanan@tangipahoadrainage.org, prior to 3 pm CST on the day preceding the scheduled meeting, describing the assistance that is necessary.

Cost of Notice: $28.75

10th Annual Livingston Parish Book Festival at the Livingston Parish Library

From Livingston Parish Library

The Livingston Parish Library is thrilled to announce the full lineup of acclaimed, award-winning authors who will be featured at the 10th Annual Livingston Parish Book Festival, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 2025, at the Main Branch in Livingston.

Headlining this year's Livingston Parish Book Festival will be Mari Mancusi, a New York Times and USA Today bestselling author.

Other featured authors include Shannon Kelley Atwater, a children's author/illustrator based in New Orleans; Baptiste Paul, a Caribbean-born children's book author, speaker, environmentalist, and activist; and Rachel M. Marsh, a Louisiana native and critically acclaimed middle grade author. Mari Mancusi

Known for her captivating storytelling and imaginative worldbuilding, Mari Mancusi is the author of more than 30 science fiction/fantasy books in addition to being an Emmy Award-winning former television news producer. Mancusi's bestselling series have been awarded spots on major state reading lists and have been featured selections in Scholastic Book Fairs and clubs.

Mancusi's extensive catalog includes "New Dragon City" and its upcoming prequel "Dawn of the Dragons"; "Dragon Ops" and its sequel "Dragon Ops: Dragons vs. Robots"; "The Once and Future Geek" and "Geeks and the Holy Grail", both from "The Camelot Code" series; "Princesses, Inc."; "Gamer Girl"; and "Golden Girl."

Mancusi has also written tie-in novels for Disney (such as "Frozen: Polar Nights, Cast into Darkness"; "Frozen: Dangerous Secrets"; and "Sally's Lament") as well as Netflix ("The Official Wednesday Cookbook").

Shannon Kelley Atwater

Shannon Kelley Atwater is an author-illustrator based in New Orleans. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Arts from Loyola University in 2009 and has been working in the arts ever since.

Atwater published her first book, "Alligators Don't Like Flowers," in 2022. Since then, she has written and illustrated three other children's books: "Goodnight Pothole," "Five Little Termites," and her newest book "Fais Do-Do," which includes an original song. She has also provided the illustrations for "Rainbow Rodney" and "Clyde the Giant Crawfish."

Atwater has been a featured author at The Louisiana Book Festival, The New Orleans Book Festival, and on NPR's The Reading Life with Susan Larson. She lives with her husband Nate and their three kids, their dog, and their bearded dragon.

Baptiste Paul

Baptiste Paul is a Caribbean-born speaker, environmentalist, activist, and

(See BOOK FESTIVAL on Page 5)

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BOOK FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

award-winning author of multiple children's books.

Paul's acclaimed debut picture book, "The Field," was inspired by his childhood in Saint Lucia, and received starred reviews from Kirkus, The Horn Book, and Booklist.

His other children's books include "Peace," "To Carnival: A Celebration in Saint Lucia," "Climb On," "Dear You, Dream Big," and Patchwork Prince." Several of his titles have been translated into multiple languages.

Baptiste's stories are fueled by his passion for diversity, inclusion, and uninhibited jwe (play). He loves writing stories inspired by his childhood and featuring words from his native language, Creole.

Rachel M. Marsh

Rachel M. Marsh, a Baton Rouge native, brought her family's Cajun folk tales to life with her debut middle grade novel, "Rougarou Magic."

The story follows 12-year-old Feliciana, a Cajun girl who is having a tough time adjusting to her new life in Boston. But things change when Feliciana's grandmother sends her a mischievous and magical monster from Cajun folklore – Roux the Rougarou.

After discovering that the creatures from Cajun folklore exist, Feliciana is torn between hiding her Southern heritage and starting fresh at her new school – all while caring for an unexpected magical friend.

"Rougarou Magic" was named a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection.

Marsh, who earned her Bachelor of Arts from Tulane University and a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing for Children from Simmons University, will release her second novel, "Grandpere's Ghost Swamp," in 2026.

Safety Tip of the Day

HOME SAFETY TIPS

LEAVE A CAR VISIBLY PARKED IN THE DRIVEWAY SO IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE IS HOME.

ALWAYS LOCK YOUR DOORS, EVEN IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU LIVE IN A SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD, OR YOU'LL JUST BE GONE MOMENTARILY.

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FUN FACT

There are two names for the fear of numbers: NUMEROPHOBIA and ARITHMOPHOBIA.

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Horoscopes

♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

2nd week of September

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
You might be anxious to say what's on your mind this week, Aries. Words are on the tip of your tongue and you aren't afraid of letting them fly. Expect some feedback from others.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Make sure you are taking care of yourself as well as you are taking care of others, Taurus. Handle any tasks that require a lot of brain power first, then move on to something fun.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Do your thing this week and don't worry about how others feel about it, Gemini. Take control of an issue when you see that something needs to get done.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
You are thinking clearly this week, Cancer. Do your best with the tools you are given right now. You might need to direct others, but generally let them do their own thing.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
You do not need an invitation to speak your mind, Leo. Express yourself how you see fit and give others plenty of opportunity to have their say as well. The conversation will flow.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, there is a great deal of power behind your thoughts, so use it wisely. Take this energy to work and see if you can channel it to your professional benefit.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, you are not going to meet new people if you stay indoors all of the time. Get out there and try something new. You can bond with others over an activity or a hobby.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, don't waste your time this week by tiptoeing around. Throw caution to the wind and engage in activities that will provide solid opportunities for growth.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
A powerful force is guiding your actions this week, Sagittarius. Utilize this as motivation to complete an important task.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Be confident in your thoughts and actions, Capricorn. If you don't believe in what you are saying, how can you convince others to back your efforts?

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, someone is bound to say something meaningful to you if you keep an open ear to all conversation around you. Speak less and listen more for the time being.

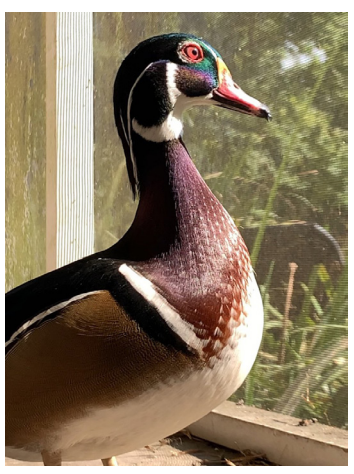
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, ideas and influences from others can transform your thinking. That can help propel you out of the pattern of actions that may be holding you back.

Our Wild, Wild World

By Kasia Perkowska

The Wood Duck - Our Most Beautiful Waterfowl Species

When I tell people my favorite duck species is the wood duck, they believe I'm talking about a wooden decoy, as most may not be familiar with this amazing duck. The wood duck is one of our most colorful waterfowl species, and one of our smaller ones.



During breeding season, the males have a beautiful metallic greenish-purple crest on top of their heads, a blackish neck with a distinct white striped pattern across the neck and on each side of the face that accentuates the cheeks. The rest of the body has different earth tones that remind me mostly of fall leaf colors, and a beautiful pattern throughout.

Females are beautiful as well, but not colorful like the males. They are mostly grey with a white shaped teardrop pattern around each eye.

I didn't believe they were real when first shown a photo of one in a book. The drake (male duck) looked like someone painted the intricate designs onto him. After breeding season, drakes lose their iridescent, colorful plumage, and are just as grey and plain looking as the females, until the following breeding season.

Wood ducks are also called Carolina ducks, swamp ducks, and my favorite, woodies. Since they are perching ducks, they spend a lot of their time perched in trees on branches next to swamps, marshes, and ponds, and have been seen in some local parks.

What makes woodies unique is, unlike most other duck species who nest on the ground, wood ducks are tree nesters. They build their nests high up in tree cavities hollowed out by other animals, or in areas of conservation, they are provided with nesting boxes hung a few feet off the ground. Some have made their nests in tree hollows as high as 65 feet off the ground.

Their sharp claws are perfect for climbing and perching without slipping off. What I find most fascinating about them is after hatching, the babies first have to climb up the inside wall of the tree or nest box to reach the opening. Mom is usually on the ground calling out to her babies and encouraging them to jump.

I highly encourage watching videos of wood duck babies leaving the nest, as their next step, at just hours old, is a huge leap of faith. As their mama calls for them from down below, each baby climbs out of the nest and then jumps.

Unable to fly and covered only with soft down, the ducklings are so lightweight, they safely flutter down to the ground and bounce on leaf litter, or fall directly into the water below.

These adorable little waddlers were almost hunted to extinction in the late 19th century, but due to wildlife management efforts, the species was able to recover. They're shy little ducks, unlike the braver mallards or muscovies, so it's not as common to see them; and when they see humans, they usually fly or swim away.

Despite learning early on that dogs bark, cows moo, and ducks quack, the majority of duck species don't actually quack, other than female mallards and several domestic species. Woodies have distinct calls like chirps and whistles, and the calls differ between males and females.

Unlike domestic duck species, woodies have very strict housing and dietary requirements. Therefore, if you find an orphaned or injured woody, it's best to contact a trained wildlife professional. They are very difficult to raise in captivity; even many rehabbers have been unsuccessful, so it's not a good idea to attempt to rehab them at home.

FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION DAY

FOR FIRST RESPONDERS & THEIR FAMILIES

September 13, 2025
12 - 4 PM

Worship at 4 PM led by
Bro.Danny Lopez & Bro. Wayne Ratliff

Camp Living Waters welcomes first responders and their families to a day for them!

Free food | Fire trucks | Water slide | Pool | Games

For more info, Contact
Bro. Wayne Ratliff, 8th Ward Fire Chaplain, 985-634-4005

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